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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 23965

LIMDIS - POLICY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: JAPANESE OFFER MILLION DOLLARS FOR MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL STUDY OF LONG RANGE POLICY OPTIONS OF
THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL NATIONS

1. FULL TEXT OF JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOLLOWS:

"OUTLINE OF A PROPOSAL FROM THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT FOR
A STUDY ON THE FUTURE OF THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL
SOCIETY IN HARMONY WITH THE SOUND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
PRESENTLY
LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

1. IN THE PAST 25 YEARS, THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIALIZED
COUNTRIES, MAINLY COMPOSED OF OECD MEMBERS, HAVE ACHIEV-
ED A REMARKABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY BASED
ON FREE MARKET ECONOMY AND EXCHANGE OF TECHNOLOGY.
HOWEVER, IN THE 1970S, IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT IT IS
NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO REALIZE THE PROSPERITY OF THE
WORLD BY A SIMPLE EXTRAPOLATION OF PAST POLICIES - AS
CAN BE SEEN IN THE CRITICAL POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS OR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND
RESOURCE PROBLEMS SHOWN BY THE ENERGY CRISIS AND,
FURTHER, IN THE MONETARY PROBLEMS OR INFLATION.

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NOW, HOWEVER, ALL THE COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, AND ES-

PECIALLY THE OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES, WHO HAVE BEEN TAKING THE LEADING ROLE, NEED TO MAKE A FUNDAMENTAL REAPPRAISAL OF THEIR POLICIES.

BUT THE PRESENT SITUATION IS THAT ALL GOVERNMENTS, AS WELL AS OECD, ARE STRONGLY PRESSED BY URGENT PROBLEMS SUCH AS CURRENCY, INFLATION, ENERGY AND RE-SOURCES, AND THEY HAVE LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO APPROACH AND STUDY THE SOLUTIONS OF BASIC PROBLEMS AND FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES OF POLICIES FROM A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE.

IT IS EVIDENT THAT WITHOUT A LONG-TERM VISION AND PERSPECTIVE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SOLVE THE BASIC PROBLEMS, AND THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR OECD.

JAPAN IS A COUNTRY AMONG THE OECD MEMBERS WHICH HAS ACHIEVED REMARKABLE SUCCESS IN HER DEVELOPMENT AND IS ALSO ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE COUNTRIES IN STRIVING FOR THE SOLUTION OF VARIOUS CRUCIAL PROBLEMS. ON THE OCCASION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF JAPAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OECD, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE, NOT ONLY TO OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES BUT ALSO TO THE FUTURE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, TO OFFER A FUND FOR A LONG-TERM STUDY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES AND PROBLEMS WITH WHICH WE WILL BE FACED IN THE YEARS TO COME.

THE MAIN AIM OF SUCH A PROJECT WILL BE TO DRAW UP A SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS, TO MAKE A TENTATIVE DESCRIPTION OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE XXIST CENTURY, AND TO IDENTIFY LINES OF POLICY CONDUCIVE TO ITS REALIZATION IN HARMONY WITH THE SOUND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESENT LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

2. IN ORDER TO HELP GOVERNMENTS IDENTIFY DESIRABLE AND FEASIBLE CONDITIONS TO BE ARRIVED AT BY THE OECD COUNTRIES BY THE END OF THIS CENTURY, IT IS PROPOSED THAT A LIMITED NUMBER OF POSSIBLE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE

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SOCIETY OF MEMBER COUNTRIES BE WORKED OUT AND ANALYSED IN RELATION TO: THE STABILITY OF THE SYSTEM IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; THE DISTRIBUTION OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES; THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF WORLD TRADE; RATES OF DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES; THE ALLOCATION OF FOOD, ENERGY RESOURCES AND OTHER COMMODITIES BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES; AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND ENVIRONMENT IN THE COUNTRIES. DETAILS OF THE ITEMS TO BE STUDIED SHOULD BE DECIDED BY FURTHER DISCUSSION.

3. THESE DESCRIPTIONS WILL ATTEMPT TO INDICATE HOW PARTS OF OUR SOCIETIES OPERATE AND INTERACT WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE SAME OR OTHER SOCIETIES. THE RESERACH STUDIES AND SCENARIOS ARE NOT INTENDED TO BE FORECASTS OF THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRIES; THEY ARE INTENDED TO INDICATE TO DECISION-MAKERS SOME OF THE ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS THEY HAVE, IN PLANNING FOR THE LONGER-TERM FUTURE OF THEIR COUNTRY, THE COLLECTIVITY OF INDUSTRIALISED SOCIETIES AND THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

THE RESULT OF SUCH STUDIES SHOULD BE RELEVANT FOR PRACTICAL DECISION-MAKING.

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4. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SELECT THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS OF THE SYSTEM, WHETHER THEY BE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL OR POLITICAL, AND TO DEFINE THE MAJOR RELATIONSHIPS THAT LINK THESE ELEMENTS.

5. IT IS ASSUMED THAT THE STUDIES WILL INCORPORATE PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS WHICH HAVE A REASONABLE RELIABILITY SUCH AS THOSE FOR POPULATION LEVELS, RAW MATERIALS AND ENERGY DEMANDS, AND PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS ON THE WORLD SITUATION. IT IS ONLY IF GREAT CARE IS TAKEN IN SOBER APPRAISALS OF THE FUTURE, THAT RELIABLE RESULTS CAN BE OBTAINED WHICH MAY PROVE OF VALUE TO DECISION MAKERS AND LEND RESPECTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE FIELD OF FUTURE ANALYSIS.

6. THE PERIOD OF DURATION OF THE STUDY WILL BE THREE YEARS. IT WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN A RESEARCH FRAMEWORK CLOSELY LINKED WITH OECD.

THE DETAILS OF PROCEDURE SHOULD BE DECIDED BY FURTHER DISCUSSION.

7. THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS HAPPY TO PROPOSE THE SETTING UP A SUCH A FUND AS A TRIBUTE TO THE FUTURE OF OECD AND HOPES THAT ITS GRANT OF 1 MILLION DOLLARS WILL BE MATCHED BY OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES SET OUT ABOVE."

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